

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A vaccine~~ An immunostimulant composition comprising pharmaceutically acceptable particles selected from polymeric microcapsules or liposomes, the particles comprising a biologically active agent that generates a protective immune response in an animal to which it is administered; in combination with an adjuvant chemical which increases the effect of the biologically active agent by acting as an immunostimulant, said adjuvant chemical being selected from the group consisting of:

- A) polyornithine,
- B) a member selected from the group consisting of water soluble vitamins and water soluble vitamin derivatives,
- C) a member selected from the group consisting of positively charged cationic block copolymers and positively charged cationic surfactants,
- D) a clathrate,
- E) a complexing agent,
- F) cetrimides,
- G) a an S-layer protein, and
- H) Methyl-glucamine;

subject to the following proviso

a) when the adjuvant chemical is selected from A, the composition is for administration to a mucosal surface, and

b) when the particles are polymeric microcapsules, they are either obtainable using a double emulsion solvent evaporation method or have an adjuvant chemical incorporated at the surface.

Claims 2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the adjuvant chemical is selected from one or more of:

- A) polyornithine having a molecular weight from 5 to 150 kDa,
- B) vitamin E TPGS (d-alpha tocophenyl polyethylene glycol 1000 succinate),
- C) a cationic block copolymer or a cationic surfactant, positively charged by means of NH_2^+ groups,
- D) a complexing agent that forms complexes with fatty acids, or
- E) cyclodextrin or a derivative thereof.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the particles are liposomes.

7. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the particles are microcapsules.

8. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 7 wherein the microcapsules are prepared using a high molecular weight polymer.

9. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 8 wherein the polymer has a molecular weight of 100 kDa or more.

10. (Previously Presented) The composition according to claim 7 wherein the microcapsules comprise poly-(L-lactide).

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 which further comprises a second adjuvant.

Claims 14-25. (Cancelled)

Claims 26-28. (Withdrawn)

29. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 1 wherein the adjuvant chemical is a cationic block copolymer or a cationic surfactant, positively charged by means of NH_2^+ groups.

Claims 30-32. (Withdrawn)

33. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 7 wherein the adjuvant chemical is coated on the surface of the microcapsule.

34. (New) An immunostimulant composition comprising pharmaceutically acceptable polymeric microcapsules, the microcapsules comprising a biologically active agent that generates a protective immune response in an animal to which it is administered; said microcapsules having an adjuvant chemical that increases the effect of the biologically active agent by acting as an immunostimulant coated on the surface thereof, said adjuvant chemical being selected from the group consisting of:

A) polyornithine,

B) a member selected from the group consisting of water soluble vitamins and water soluble vitamin derivatives,

C) a member selected from the group consisting of positively charged cationic block copolymers and positively charged cationic surfactants,

D) a clathrate,

E) a complexing agent,

F) cetrimides,

G) an S-layer protein, and

H) Methyl-glucamine;

subject to the following proviso

when the adjuvant chemical is selected from A, the composition is for administration to a mucosal surface.